

of Congregation Sinai have truly helped to shape their community.

Working with the West Haven Clergy Association, the Congregation's leaders have worked diligently to promote brotherhood and understanding between groups of varying religious backgrounds. Members donate their time and energies to a variety of causes and the Congregation has opened its doors to youth and other community groups—offering them a place to meet so that they too can make a difference in the community.

Through their endless compassion and generosity, Congregation Sinai and its membership have left an indelible mark on the City of West Haven. I am proud to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations and very best wishes to Congregation Sinai as they celebrate their seventy-fifth anniversary. Mazel Tov!

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE 459TH AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQUADRON

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, since September 11, 2001, valiant young Americans have served our country on the front lines of the War on Terrorism, and some have made the ultimate sacrifice. We will always remember and recognize their courage and selflessness in defense of our Nation.

Over the past two and a half years, thousands of brave soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have returned home wounded, sometimes seriously, from Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. These heroes have arrived at Andrews Air Force base aboard the U.S. Air Force's Worldwide Aeromedical Evacuation flights.

Upon arrival, these service members are met by a group of heroes in their own right, the reserve airmen and women of the 459th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. Since their mobilization on April 3, 2003 these men and women have worked tirelessly to ensure that our injured and wounded service members are moved safely from the Aeromedical Evacuation System to stateside facilities where they can receive critical lifesaving care.

The 100-bed Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility (CASF) was established in March to supplement the existing Andrews Air Force Base ASF in anticipation of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Working out of makeshift facilities, including a fitness building and tennis center, the men and women of the Andrews CASF maintain the highest standard of care for wounded service members transiting the U.S. Air Force's Evacuation system. Since April 2003 the Andrews CASF staff has moved 11,307 injured military personnel through Andrews on their way to military medical centers nationwide.

In our many visits to the Walter Reed Army Medical Center here in Washington, DC, and the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, my wife Beverly and I have met countless young soldiers, sailors and Marines who survived life-threatening injuries because of the quick and effective work of those responsible for the Air Force's Aeromedical

Evacuation Flights and Staging Facilities. Each and every day, the nurses, physicians, and medical technicians of the Andrews CASF stand ready to receive and care for some of our most critically wounded heroes from the War on Terrorism. All Americans are proud of their service and grateful for their efforts, none more so than those whose lives they held in their hands. The men and women of the Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility have fulfilled their responsibility with distinction and with grace under pressure, and have demonstrated yet again the skill and dedication of America's citizen soldiers.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this often overlooked group of American heroes and I ask that my colleagues in the Congress join with me today in honoring their patriotism and their contribution to the cause of freedom around the globe.

So that they may be honored individually, I am submitting the names of the 86 personnel of the Andrews CASF, including 30 members of the 89th Medical Group, for the RECORD:

Adams, Shaun—MD; Anderson, James—VA; Anderson, Larry Jr—MD; Arrington, Shelia—VA; Allis, Patrick—NC; Ascue, Joseph—VA; Ayala-Tipmongkol, Patricia—VA; Barlow, Raymond—PA; Becton, Avery—VA; Beebe, Deborah—TX; Bowles, Charmayne—MD; Brandon, Lewis—MD;

Brooks, Sylvia—MD; Bullock, Geraldine—NC; Bulow, Tequila—MD; Campbell, Shanita—VA; Cesaro, Roger—MD; Delaney, Allen—SC; Devilla, Eustaquio—VA; Drummond, Jimmie—MD; Emeagwali, Edith—MD; Fairley, Xamodria—MD; Fields, Darrell—MO; Finn, Sophia—MD;

Fitzpatrick, Alice—VA; Fletcher, James—MA; Fullenwilder, Edson—MD; Gadsden, Tamar—MD; Gavin, Shaun—MD; Gill, Mary—MD; Goston, Santoskaun—VA; Green (Walker), Candice—PA; Guerra, Adrian—IL; Hagans, Rudy—MD; Harvey, Nakia—MD; Hayden, Donald—KY;

Heyward, Cheryl—DC; Hodge, Nketia—VA; Howard, Charles—MD; James, Joseph—MD; James, Zenobia—MD; Johnson, Deborah—NC; Johnson, Doreen—MD; Johnson, Dwines—NC; Jones, Bonnie—MD; Jones-Everett, Jennifer—MD; Kee, Frances—MD; Kellner, Karen—MD;

King, Caleb—MD; Knight, Nina—PA; Leggett, Taeka—VA; Lewis, Christopher—MD; Lipscomb, Marina—MD; Longfellow, Dawn—DE; Lyde, Georgia—MD; Martin, Roberta—MD; Masonis, Michael—MD; McCall, Colon—MD; Meredith, Janelle—MD; Mewborn, Margaret—VA;

Millner, Johnnie—VA; Mills, Edwards, Shera—NC; Moore, Ricardo—VA; Moore, Vanessa—NC; Morgan, Jennifer—VA; Morton, Sandi—VA; Myles, Larry—VA; Pauldine, Ronald—MD; Persons, Cynthia—VA; Phifer, Dianett—VA; Plog, Hunter—MD; Quinerly, Julius—VA;

Retener, Jose—MD; Reynolds, Gary—MD; Richardson, Leonard—MD; Roberts, Tracy—SC; Rudd, Brant—MD; Sawka, Ann—PA; Sherry-Notar, Precious—VA; Silver, James—MD; Simon, Norman—VA; Smith, William—VA;

Stiles, Erlinda—MD; Sylvestro, Patricia—MD; Taylor, Meghan—VA; Thomas, Edward—VA; Troutman, Wanda—NC; Tutwiler, Terry—VA; Vogan, Kieth—WV; Whitney, Angel—DE; Williams, Cornelius—VA; and Woodyard, April—NC.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK MONTERA

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sad heart that I rise to pay tribute to the passing of a great man from my district. Mayor Frank Montera, a native of Pueblo, Colorado, recently passed away at the age of 87. Frank dedicated his life to public service and I am honored today to bring his contributions to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation.

Mayor Montera will be forever remembered for his tremendous service to his community. He served on the Aguilar Town Council for almost 30 years, spent another eight on the Aguilar School Board, and later served as the town's Mayor. Frank was a diligent public servant who had a long history of involvement in community affairs. Frank's example serves as a model of how hard work and altruistic endeavors facilitate a prosperous and rewarding community.

Mr. Speaker, Frank Montera was an incredible role model for America's youth. Frank dedicated his life to representing the scholastic endeavors of a generation. His compassionate and selfless service to Aguilar and the Colorado community certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family during this time of bereavement.

H.R. 3030—IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3030, Reauthorization of the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG). I am a strong supporter of this block grant, as noted in my previous remarks on February 4, 2004.

I am disappointed, however, that H.R. 3030, as passed, failed to correct provisions in current law that permit religious organizations receiving funds under this Act to discriminate in employment based on religion. While these provisions have existed in current law for five years, I cannot condone the continuation of discriminatory policies.

I supported the Democratic substitute offered by my colleagues on the Education and the Workforce Committee, Representatives LYNN WOOLSEY and GEORGE MILLER, that restore basic civil rights for workers while ensuring the ongoing participation of faith-based groups in CSBG programs. I also supported the Miller amendment to extend the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation program for an additional six months.

This extension is long overdue given that 8.4 million Americans are now unemployed—159,344 in Wisconsin alone—and it is taking longer and longer for them to find work. I hear daily from job seekers in my district about how difficult it has been to find employment in this